IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT THIS GUY HAS BECOME SUCH AN OTAKU!

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT HIM?

WELL~ I CAN PROUDLY SAY I'M A VICTIM OF HIS OTAKU TENDENCIES.

REALLY? WHEN I FIRST MET HIM, HE WAS ALREADY A COMPLETELY ANNOYING OTAKU.

WHEN HE WAS LITTLE, HE WAS ACTUALLY CUTE AND HONEST.

HEY, HEY, IT'S ME!

IT'S PAPA, MAMA AND ME WHO FIRST INTRODUCED TOMOYA TO OTAKUDOM!

SAWAMURA-SAN, WHY ARE YOU SO EXCITED ABOUT IT?

YEAH YEAH, HE WAS. I STILL REMEMBER HIM ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

SAWA-MURA-SAN?

SFX: NOD

WAIT, SAWAMURA-SAN.

I-I SEE, I WAS THE ONE FOLLOWING HIM.

WHEN WE WENT HANGING OUT, HE FOLLOWED ME EVERY-WHERE, SAYING "MIT-CHAN, WAIT~"

NOW IT'S A GIRLS' TALK ABOUT PAST MEMORIES.

HEY, NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO DANCE TO HER TUNE.

NOD NOD

AH... YEAH...

STILL, A MAN IS A MAN...

SO HE'S RELIABLE WHEN TROUBLE COMES!

HER CASUALNESS FEELS LIKE A GODDESS' SMILE TO ME IN TIMES LIKE THIS.

SFX: CLICK

PEEK

KATOU SEEMS UNIN-TEREST-ED.

SFX: CLICK

YOU KNOW, IT GETS DARK EARLY ON MOUNTAINS. I WAS CREEPED OUT, BEING IN THE WOODS WITH CROWS CAWING.

OH BOY, THAT'S REAL BAD.

ONE SUMMER... I GOT A LITTLE TIRED OF TOMO WHO WAS ALWAYS FOLLOWING ME, SO I WENT UP THE MOUNTAIN ALONE.

UNFORTUNATELY, I TWISTED MY ANKLE NEAR A CLIFF, AND COULDN'T WALK AFTER THAT.

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EEEK...

THE FLYING BATS WERE REAL SCARY.

SFX: FLIP

W-WAS IT A BEAR OR WILD PIG?

Ha wa wa wa

SHAKING, I COULDN'T EVEN CRY FOR HELP...

WHEN THE BUSH IN FRONT OF ME STARTED MOVING!

O-ON HIS BACK!

TOMO CARRIED ME ON HIS BACK ALL THE WAY BACK DOWN.

HE HAD SCRATCHES ALL OVER HIS ARMS AND LEGS AND HIS FACE... FROM LOOKING FOR ME ALL OVER THE MOUNTAIN!

IT WAS TOMO.

AH...

TOO BAD, I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

HEY, TOMO!

HEY, HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN THAT HAPPENED? WHO CAME EARLIER, HER OR ME?

GEEZ, IT'S THE ONLY TIME I'VE EVER SHOWN HIM MY TEARS! AH, I'M SUDDENLY STARTING TO GET ANGRY~

H-HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN THIS HAPPENED?

I KEPT CRYING UNTIL WE MADE IT TO GRANDPA'S HOUSE.

HE WAS SHORTER THAN ME BACK THEN, BUT HE DIDN'T WHINE AT ALL...

ACTUALLY, I WAS THE ONE CRYING.

?

WHAT?

THE COMPUTER FROZE.

I CLICKED SOME BUTTON SAYING "UNINSTALL" AND THE SCREEN SUDDENLY WENT BLUEISH...

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HM~ I CAN'T FIND IT ANY-WHERE...

I CAN'T EVEN LOCATE WHAT WAS HERE LAST WEEK...

IT'S SO MESSY...

IT'S OKAY. NO NEED TO GET DUSTY AFTER YOU TAKE A BATH...

!

HM~ DO YOU WANT HELP?

LOOKING FOR SOME-THING.

TOMO, THE BATH'S ALL YOURS~

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?!

HUH? I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG.

I'M CRITICIS-ING YOUR CHOICE OF NIGHT CLOTHES,

NOT YOUR ACTIONS!

WELL~ ALL MY USUAL CLOTHES ARE IN THE WASH RIGHT NOW.

THIS IS THE ONLY THING LEFT.

THEN GET FULLY DRESSED! DON'T PUT ON JUST PART OF IT HALF-ASSEDLY!

NO, I JUST TOOK A BATH, SO I'M TOO HOT.

I BOUGHT A CHANGE OF CLOTHES. PUT THEM ON! I'LL STAY OUTSIDE!

OKAY~I OWE YOU SO MUCH, TOMO. I'LL MAKE SURE TO PAY YOU BACK LATER!

I'M GLAD I PRE-PARED A COUNTER-MEASURE.

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF CLUB FUNDS ...

CASH, PLEASE.

I SEE... SHE PREFERRED REVEALING CLOTHES JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE COMFORTABLE.

SFX: TAP

THIS IS QUITE GOOD. THANKS, TOMO.

YEAH,

WELL, IT'S NOT IMPORTANT. I CAN BUY A NEW ONE LATER.

HM~

NO...

SO DID YOU FIND IT?

WITH ONE GUEST, YOU KNOW.

LET'S HAVE HYODO MICHIRU'S SOLO RECITAL~

I KNOW!

SFX: GUITAR SOUND

REALLY? TOMO, THANK YOU!

RIGHT, YOU CAN USE THE AMP TODAY.

KEEP IT LOW BECAUSE WE DON'T WANT TO DISTURB THE NEIGHBOURS.

YEAH, IT'S REAL GOOD...

WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES, I CAN PICTURE THE BACK-GROUND... THE CHAR-ACTER...

FOLLOWED BY A TEXT WINDOW, AND AN EMOTIONAL LINE...

ALL KINDS OF WOMEN SMILE, CRY, FALL IN LOVE, AND KISS...

MICHIRU'S GUITAR IS NOW REINFORCING THIS TRIUMPHANT AND TRAGIC STORY...

STOPPING SHORT THERE THANKS TO AGE RESTRICTIONS.

SFX: GUITAR

HER MUSIC WILL MATCH UTAHA-SENPAI'S SCENARIO.

IT'LL FORM A HARMONY WITH ERIRI'S ILLUSTRATIONS.

AND KATOU'S...

WELL, IT MIGHT HELP RAISE HER HEROINE-NESS.

HM?

HEY MICHIRU.

.....

I REALLY DO WANT YOU.

WHOA! TOMO, YOU'RE SO CHEAP. YOU CAN'T BLAME ME FOR THAT.

I-I'M SORRY...

WHOA! HOLD ON! STOP THERE!

IT'S YOUR SONGS I WANT!

YOU AS MY FIRST, HUH?

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M NOT INTERESTED, AND I DON'T THINK IT'LL BE A TERRIBLE MEMORY WITH YOU. I GUESS IT WON'T BE TOO BAD.

ANYWAY... ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN'T DO IT? YOU CAN STILL GIVE YOUR BAND PRIORITY.

SO... SO, MICHIRU-

TOMO...

AND FOR MY IMPORTANT TEAMMATES WHO ARE HELPING ME TO REACH IT.

HOW CAN I GIVE UP...? IT'S FOR MY DREAM,

YOU HAVEN'T GIVEN UP YET...

I ALSO HAVE IMPORTANT BAND MEMBERS.

JUST AS IMPORTANT AS YOURS ARE TO YOU...

SINCE I FORCED MYSELF INTO THEIR BAND AFTER LISTENING TO THEIR SONGS BY ACCIDENT AND FALLING IN LOVE WITH THEM A YEAR AGO...

THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN IMPORTANT PARTNERS TO ME.

NO, THEY'RE MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN YOU THINK YOURS.

AS THE LEAD GUITAR AND SINGER, SHE'S THE ACE OF HER BAND,

BUT SHE'S BEEN INACTIVE SINCE HER PARENTS FOUND OUT ABOUT IT... NOW THE BAND IS IN DANGER OF DISBANDING.

MICHIRU ...

SORRY, BUT I HAVE NO TIME TO SPARE TO HELP YOU.

YET, THANKS TO ME, WE'RE ON THE VERGE OF BREAKING UP...

YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD THE HOST WHO'S LET YOU STAY FOR TWO WEEKS COUNTING!

WHAT?

TWICE THIS WEEK.

...ACTUALLY, I HAVE.

HAVEN'T YOU TALKED TO UNCLE YET?

HUH? DID YOU JUST SAY "ANYTHING"?

I SAID "ANYTHING I CAN".

G-GREAT!

SO WHAT'RE THE CONDITIONS? IF THERE'S ANYTHING CAN DO TO HELP, I GLADLY WILL!

SO... WILL IT WORK OUT?

YEAH... HE SAID I COULD STAY IN THE BAND UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

SFX: ATTENTION

MANAGER? FOR A START-UP BAND?

WELL THE POINT IS, HE'S WORRIED ABOUT AN ALL-GIRL BAND GOING TO LIVE HOUSES.

WE NEED TO GET A PROPER MANAGER.

THREE CONDITIONS:

FIRST, I MUSTN'T SKIP SCHOOL.

SECOND, IF I FAIL AN EXAM, I'LL HAVE TO QUIT THE BAND.

THIRD ...

...GETTING BACK TO THE TOPIC,

THEN YOU ADMIT TO HAVING A PREJUDICE AGAINST ROCK, RIGHT?

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE FROM YOU SEEING AN OTAKU AS A PEDOPHILE OR SEX CRIMINAL?

ISN'T THAT TOO MUCH OF A PREJUDICE?

YEAH, I TOTALLY GET IT. ROCK AND ROLL DOES GO HAND IN HAND WITH SEX AND DRUGS.

SO, TOMO...

HM...

LIVE EVENTS TAKE PLACE AT NIGHT, AND THEY EVEN SERVE ALCOHOL THERE. HE HAS A GOOD REASON TO BE CONCERNED.

IN THE END,

HE NEEDS SOMEONE TO PLAY GUARDIAN.

I GET YOUR SITUATION.

OKAY, I'LL HAVE A LOOK AROUND, EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW A LOT ABOUT THE MUSIC INDUSTRY...

NO, NO, WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, MR. MANAGER?

I MIGHT FIND SOME AGENCY FOR THAT KIND OF JOB IF I START FROM MY CONTACTS IN THE DOUJIN INDUSTRY, AND EXPAND MY SEARCH TO AMATEUR SINGERS AND VOCALOID CIRCLES.

ALSO, IF I GET MICHIRU'S BAND INVOLVED IN THE INDUSTRY, IT'LL BE EASIER FOR ME TO PERSUADE THEM LATER.

...YES?

YOU'RE THE ONE SAYING NONSENSE.

HOW CAN I TRUST SOME COMPLETE STRANGER AS OUR MANAGER?

NO WAY! WHAT PURE NONSENSE!

SFX: R.SE

YOU'RE A PERFECT FIT SINCE I'VE KNOWN YOU SINCE WE WERE BORN.

WE CAN'T AFFORD SUCH A BLIND-DATE-KIND OF THING.

YOU CAN GET TO KNOW THE NEW GUY OVER TIME! EVERYONE'S A STRANGER THE FIRST TIME!

CLEARLY, DEFINITELY, ABSOLUTELY NO!

WHAT?!

BESIDES, CAN YOUR PARENTS ACCEPT ME?

HM, I'M SURE THEY'LL SAY OKAY.

PAPA ACTUALLY SAID, "I CAN TOTALLY TRUST TOMOYA IF HE TAKE CARES OF YOU!"

ARE YOUR SCHOOL-MATES SO THIRSTY FOR MEN?!

DON'T WORRY! THEY'LL OK IT AS LONG AS YOU'RE A TOYO-GASAKI STU-DENT!

B-BUT WON'T YOUR FRIENDS HATE IT IF A MALE OTAKU WHO'S IGNORANT OF ROCK MUSIC FOL-LOWS THEM AROUND?

WAIT A SECOND!

SO, TOMO, PLEASE...

YOU'RE THE ONLY HOPE.

M-MICHI-RU...

I HAVE A CIRCLE - "BLESSING SOFTWARE".

BESIDES, NON-OTAKU ACTIVITY LIKE A ROCK BAND IS SIMPLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME.

...I'M SORRY BUT I CAN'T.

WE'RE BORN WITH DIFFERENT COLOURS OF SOUL.

YOU ASKED A NON-OTAKU LIKE ME TO BECOME AN OTAKU.

...SORRY.

DIDN'T YOU JUST ASK ME TO JOIN YOUR CIRCLE?

TOMO...

MICHI-RU...

NO NEED TO APOLO-GISE. I SAID THE SAME THING, RIGHT?

SORRY.

I GUESS WE CAN'T ACCEPT EACH OTHER.

OR THERE'LL BE NO SOLUTION.

ONE OF US HAS TO GIVE UP...

THERE'S NO WAY I'D DO THAT.

THEN ARE YOU GOING TO JOIN MY BAND?

NOW WHAT, TOMO? ARE YOU GOING TO FORCE ME INTO YOUR CIRCLE?

THEN I WANT YOU TO BE RUINED, TOMO.

HOW CAN I DO THAT?

I'LL RUIN BOTH OF THEM.

ACTUALLY, I DIDN'T WANT TO RESORT TO THIS...

WHAT...?

SFX: GET UP

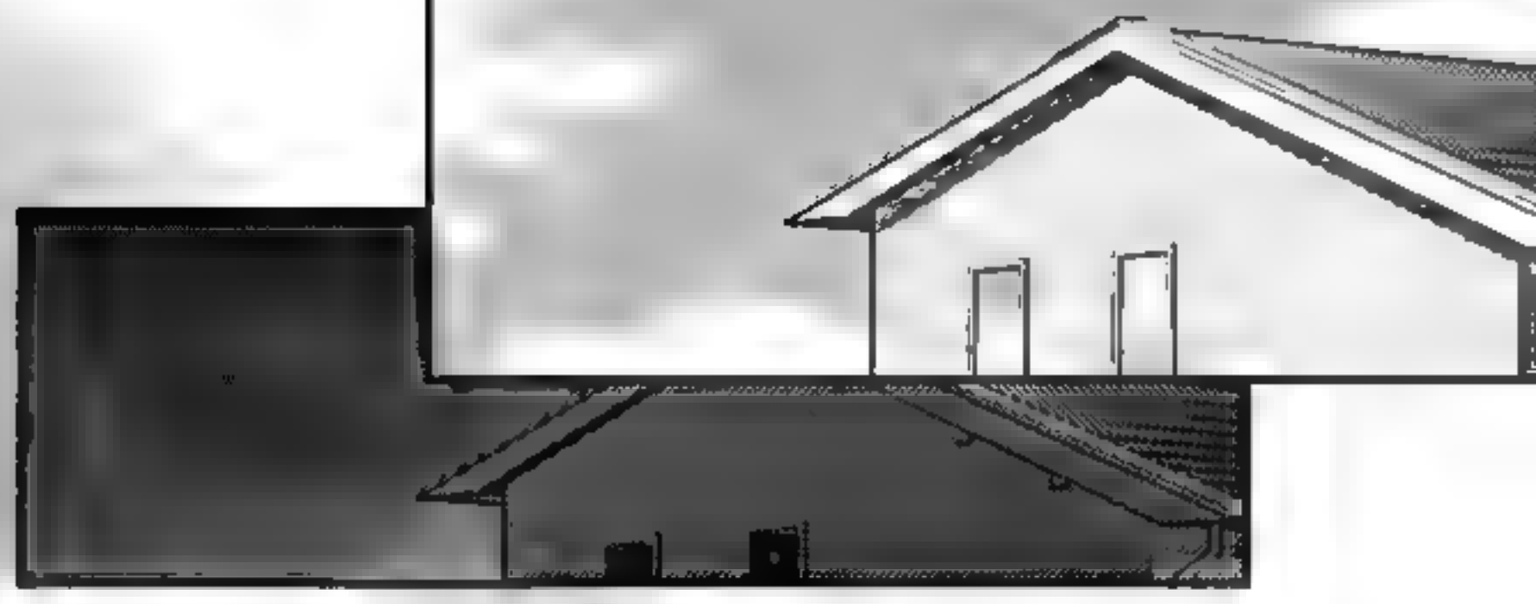
BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO JOIN US VOLUNTARILY.

WHAT?!

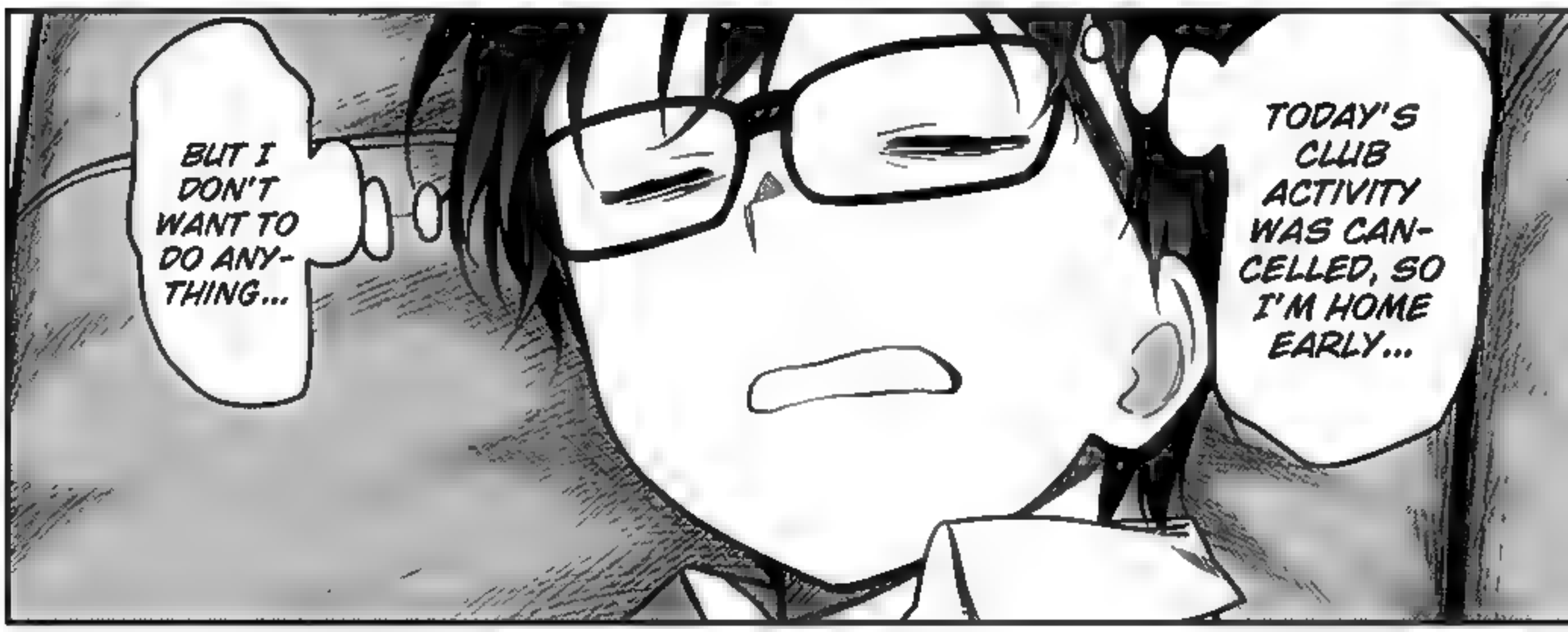
I WON'T DO ANYTHING...

I'LL JUST WAIT FOR YOUR CIRCLE TO COLLAPSE.

WH-



Sigh...


BUT I DON'T WANT TO DO ANY-THING...
TODAY'S CLUB ACTIVITY WAS CAN-CELLED, SO I'M HOME EARLY...

I WON'T DO ANY-THING...

I'LL JUST WAIT FOR YOUR CIRCLE TO COLLAPSE.

MICHI-RU...

HASN'T LEFT THE GUEST ROOM SINCE THEN... I'VE BARELY SEEN HER.

WH-

IT'S NOT AS THOUGH I'M TIRED FROM FIXING THE COMPUTER KATOU CRASHED.

THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS TO DO, SUCH AS SCRIPTING, BUT...

BUT MY BAND HAS MORE TIME ON OUR SIDE.

I HEARD THE WINTER IS YOUR DEADLINE...

HEY...

WELL THEN, I'LL NEVER HELP YOU IN ANY WAY.

YOUR GAME PRODUCTION WILL BE FRUSTRATED WITHOUT A COMPOSER, RIGHT?

I WANT YOU TO COME ASAP, BUT I'LL WAIT UNTIL YOU MEET YOUR DEAD END.

BECAUSE...

LIKE YOU SAID, I WANT YOU TOO.

WAIT A SECOND.

HEY, WHY DON'T WE GIVE IT A LITTLE MORE THOUGHT?

TO FIND A WAY TO MAKE BOTH OF US, NO, EVERYONE HAPPY.

.....

BE A NORMALFAG.

THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE TO GIVE UP BEING AN OTAKU.

HUH ...

YOUR FRIENDS DON'T SEEM ALL THAT INTO YOUR CIRCLE.

IT'S OUT OF WHACK.

BUT I THINK THIS IS THE DECISION TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY.

THAT UTAHA WOMAN HASN'T RELEASED HER NEW NOVEL BECAUSE SHE JOINED YOUR CIRCLE.

TH-THAT'S NOT THE CASE!

H-HEY!

THAT ERIRI GIRL CAN'T GO TO OTHER EVENTS BECAUSE SHE JOINED YOUR CIRCLE.

THEN WON'T THEY BE BETTER OFF IF YOU DON'T FORCE THEM TO STAY IN IT?

UGH...

DIDN'T YOU SAY...

THAT THEY'RE CREATORS TOO GOOD FOR YOUR CIRCLE?

KASHIWAGI ERI AND KASUMI UTAKO HAVE WASTED THEIR TIME.

I CHAL-LENGE YOU, TOMO.

WHETHER I WILL BE YOURS, OR YOU WILL BE MINE...

LET US SEE WHO YIELDS.

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

WHAT DO I WANT TO DO...?

1. CHILDHOOD FRIEND
2. SENPAI
▶3. CLASSMATE

...I'LL PICK KATOU FIRST. EASY ON MY MIND, MY BODY AND MY HAND...

IF I TALK TO SOME-ONE...

I CAN'T MAKE A DECISION ALONE!

GEEZ~

SFX: SCRATCH

SFX: SPR NG JP

FROM: KATOU MEGUMI

SUB: CHECK YOUR EMAIL

KATOU...?

WHOA!

SFX: BEEP

HUH...

PLEASE CLICK THE BUTTON TO DOWNLOAD THE ATTACHED FILE

test.zip

A DOWN-LOAD LINK?

DON'T TELL ME... SHE DID IT...

MEGURI: YOU... WILL NOT BEND YOUR DETERMINATION NO MATTER WHAT I SAY. NO, IT'S NOT JUST ME. WHATEVER ANYONE SAYS, RIGHT?

KATOU,

SHE'S FINISHED SUCH A TIME-CONSUMING TASK...

...DON'T BORROW IT WITHOUT PERMISSION, YOU WOMAN.

I SEE. THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T FIND THE SCRIPTING GUIDE.

SFX: CL CK

HUH?

MEGURI: BY THE WAY, SEIJI-KUN, HONESTLY SPEAKING, WASN'T IT TOO MUCH OF A FUSS?

SEIJI: FUSS?
MEGURI: LOOK, I'M TALKING ABOUT THE EPISODE WHERE COUSINS WHO ARE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS START HAVING FEELINGS FOR EACH [illegible].

...WHAT'S THIS? IT'S A STRANGE EXCHANGE...

MEGURI: LIKE, DURING A FAMILY GET-TOGETHER IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, A GIRL IS LOST ON A MOUNTAIN, AND HER COUSIN FINDS HER. IN THE END, IT'S YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE.

MEGURI: IN OTHER WORDS, SEIJI-KUN, YOU ADMIT THAT YOU WERE ATTRACTED TO YOUR COUSIN WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, AND THAT THOSE FEELINGS HAVE COME ABLAZE AGAIN NOW THAT YOU'RE REUNITED AND LIVING TOGETHER WITH HER AFTER SO MANY YEARS, RIGHT?

WHAT I SAID HAS REBOUNDED!

WHOOOOOOOOOOOOA!

SAWAMURA-SAN, I'M SORRY I'M KEEPING YOU UP SO LATE.

NEVER-MIND.

I WANTED TO PARTICIPATE AT LEAST TANGENTIALLY IN YOUR CIRCLE.

WELL~

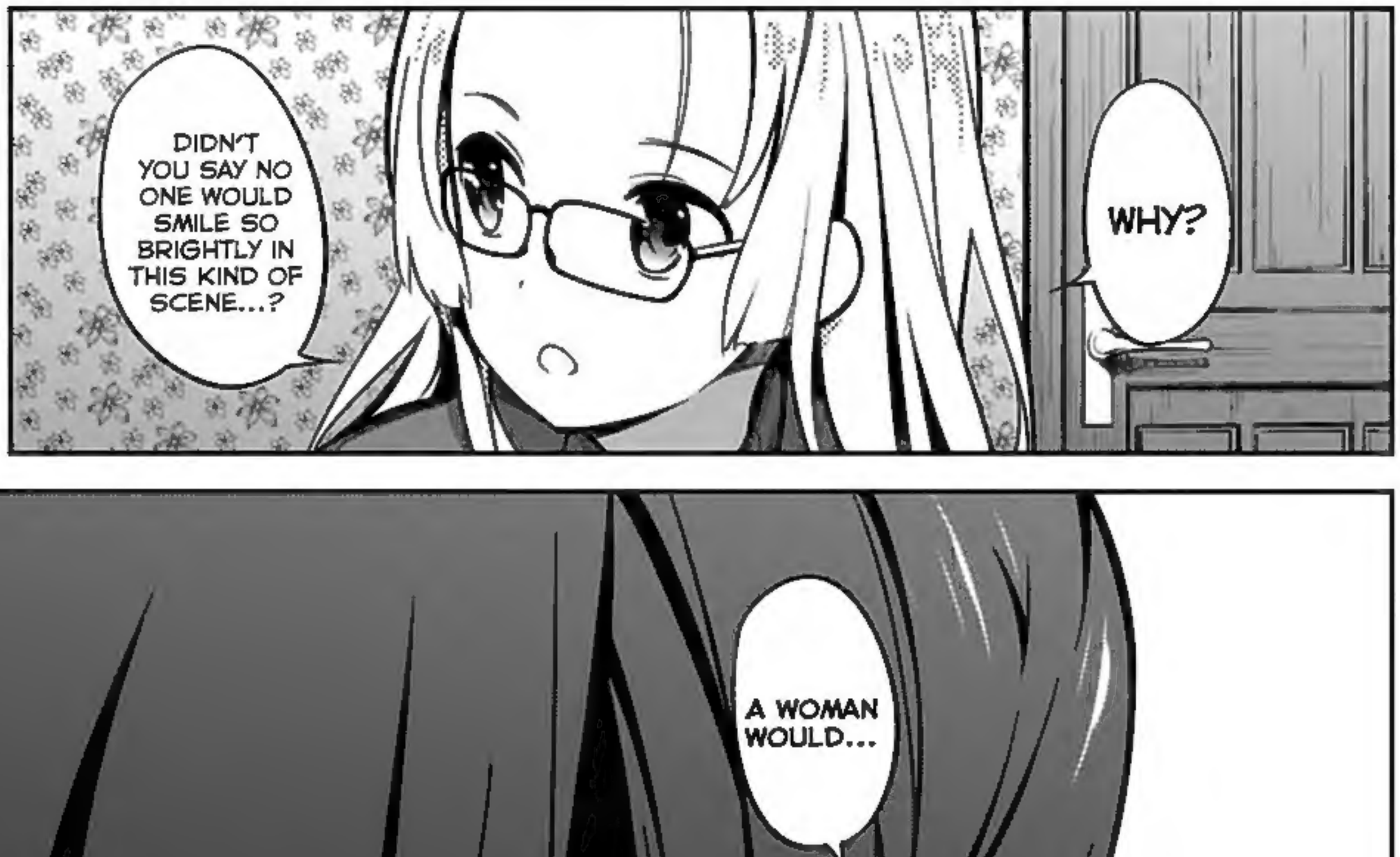
BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO GO THIS FAR JUST BECAUSE THE SCHEDULE WAS SO FAR BEHIND.

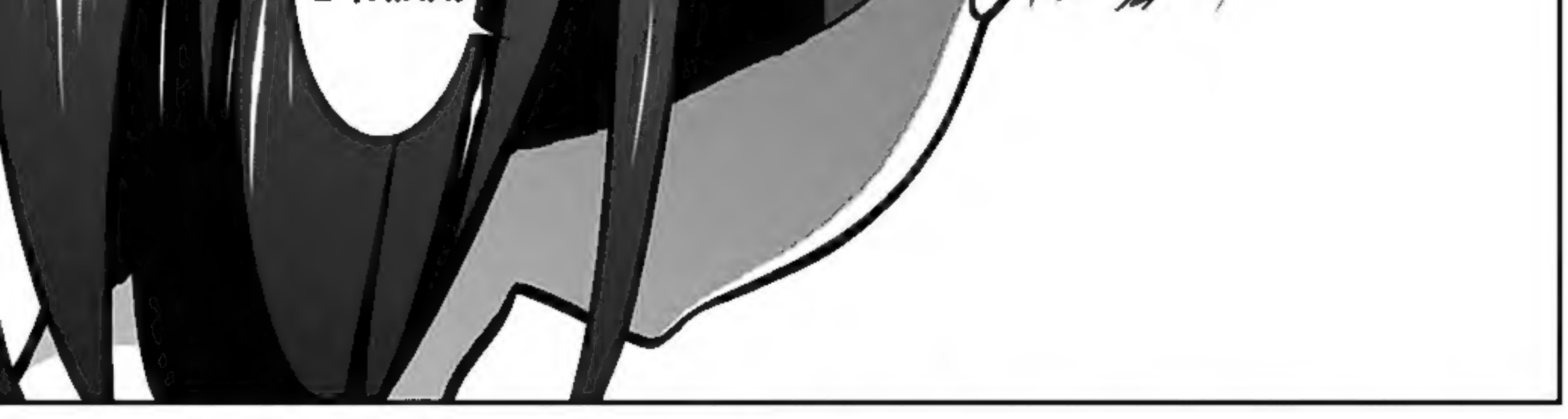
HUH?

HEY, SAWA-MURA-SAN.

I THINK WE'LL GO WITH "MEGURI_ SMILE1" IN THE SCENE WHERE MEGURI PUSHES THE MC'S BACK ON HIS WAY TO ANOTHER HEROINE.

WHAT?


DIDN'T YOU SAY NO ONE WOULD SMILE SO BRIGHTLY IN THIS KIND OF SCENE...?
WHY?
A WOMAN WOULD...
BLUFF, I THINK.



END

SAENAI KANOJO NO SODATEKATA

BY: MARUTO FUMIAKI & MORIKI TAKESHI

CHAPTER 19

Brought you by:
CAT Scans &
Norway Scan

RAW PROVIDER: SHIRATORI
TRANSLATOR: ANONYMOUS PREFERRED
PROOFREADER: VOLANDUM
CLEANER: YABOKU
REDRAWER: DARKHELLSING
TYPESETTER: KRISTJAN
QUALITY CHECKER: VOLANDUM, KRISTJAN